

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*A listing of the claims presented in this patent application appears below. This listing replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in this patent application.*

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**Claim 1 (canceled).**

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** A toner for MICR comprising at least a binder resin, magnetite particles and a wax, said magnetite particles comprising a mixture of granular magnetite and acicular magnetite,

wherein said granular magnetite has residual magnetization of 5-15 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g, and said acicular magnetite has residual magnetization of 20-50 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g,

wherein a ratio by weight of said acicular magnetite to granular magnetite is 0.1-0.5 to 1.0, and

wherein said magnetite particles are included in an amount of 15-50 % by weight in the toner, and wherein said wax has a melting point measured by DSC of 60-100°C.

**Claim 3 (previously amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said wax is a hydrocarbon wax.

**Claim 4 (canceled).**

**Claim 5 (previously amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said wax is Fischer-Tropsch wax.

**Claim 6 (previously amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 5, wherein said Fischer-Tropsch wax is Fischer-Tropsch wax formed from natural gas.

**Claim 7 (previously amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said toner contains a charge controlling agent.

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**Claim 8 (currently amended):** A toner for MICR ~~according to Claim 7[,]~~ comprising at least a binder resin, magnetite particles and a wax, said magnetic particles comprising a mixture of granular magnetite and acicular magnetite,

wherein said granular magnetite has residual magnetization of 5-15 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g, and said acicular magnetite has residual magnetization of 20-50 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g,

wherein a ratio by weight of said acicular magnetite to granular magnetite is 0.1-0.5 to 1.0,

wherein said magnetite particles are included in an amount of 15-50 % by weight in the toner, and wherein said toner contains a charge controlling agent ~~consists~~ consisting of at least two charge controlling materials, at least one of which is a chrome azo dye.

**Claim 9 (canceled).**

**Claim 10 (currently amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 9 13, wherein the amount of said silicone oil is in a range of 0.01-0.5 % by weight.

**Claim 11 (canceled).**

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**Claim 12 (canceled).**

**Claim 13 (currently amended):** A toner for MICR ~~according to Claim 11, wherein said~~ comprising at least a binder resin, magnetite particles and a wax, said magnetic particles comprising a mixture of granular magnetite and acicular magnetite,

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wherein said granular magnetite has residual magnetization of 5-15 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g, and said acicular magnetite has residual magnetization of 20-50 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g,

wherein a ratio by weight of said acicular magnetite to granular magnetite is 0.1-0.5 to 1.0,

wherein said magnetite particles are included in an amount of 15-50 % by weight in the toner, and

wherein a silicone oil and an inorganic fine powder adhere to the surface of toner particles, and said inorganic fine powder consists of inorganic fine particles (A) having the reverse polarity to the toner particles and inorganic fine particles (B) which ~~having the same polarity as the toner~~ is hydrophobic silica having BET specific surface area in a range of 100-300m<sup>2</sup>/g and having the same polarity as the toner.